

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6 and 8-42 remain pending in the present application.

In the Notice of Allowance dated September 10, 2004, claims 1-42 were indicated as being allowed. In view of the previous cancellation of claim 7, as indicated in the applicants' Corrected Amendment and Request for Reconsideration submitted on June 1, 2004, applicants submit that the allowed claims should be claims 1-6 and 8-42. Of those allowed claims, dependent claim 16 was incorrectly set forth in the most recent listing of claims, which accompanied the June 1, 2004 Corrected Amendment. Specifically, claim 16 as set forth in that most recent claim listing was copied inadvertently from the claim listing for an unrelated application. Dependent claim 16 has therefore been amended herein to restore the correct version of that claim that was of-record before the most recent amendment (see applicants' Amendment and Request for Reconsideration submitted on August 4, 2004).

The Notice of Allowability also indicated that the communication was responsive to "the RCE filed June 24, 2004." Applicants submit that no such RCE was filed in connection with the present application, but that the submission preceding the Notice of Allowability was the applicants' Corrected Amendment and Request for Reconsideration submitted on June 1, 2004. An RCE was indeed submitted in connection with the present application, but its submission date was December 19, 2002, and at least two Office Actions followed thereafter before the Notice of Allowability issued on September 10, 2004.

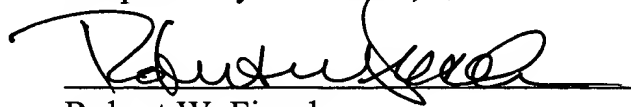
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In view of the foregoing amendments remarks, applicants submit that claims 1-6, 8-15 and 17-42 remain allowable, and that the allowability of claim 16 as corrected herein should also be confirmed. Applicants therefore request that a Supplemental Notice of Allowability be issued to enter the present amendment to correct dependent claim 16, as well as the accompanying remarks, and also to correct the prior Notice of Allowability to indicate that it was responsive to the applicants' amendment submitted on June 1, 2004, rather than an RCE filed on June 24, 2004.

Since the present amendment to dependent claim 16 does not involve consideration of any new substantive issues, applicants request consideration and entry of the present after-allowance amendment and remarks. The Examiner is invited to telephone the applicant's undersigned attorney at (312) 775-8123 if any unresolved matters remain.

Please charge any fees incurred in connection with this submission to Deposit Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,



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